

checkpoints armed by white men. Other, contradicting, evidence indicates that he may have left the city much earlier. Another report indicated that he was notified of the approach of the mob by his youngest brother, Thomas, age 11. Thomas was reportedly as light-skinned as Alex and, because of this fact, he was able to learn about the impending danger to his brother from Red Shirts while they were marching toward the press. Recently, it was published in a history of St. James Church that Robert Strange personally escorted Manly out of the city in his carriage.

Manly relocated to Washington, DC by 1900 and rented a home at 1607 11th Street. Family tradition holds that he was first given asylum by Congressman George White. According to the 1900 census, Manly lived in Washington, DC with his brother Frank (born 1869), brother Henry (born 1879), boarder John P. Meyers (born in South Carolina in 1877), and boarder John Goins (born in South Carolina in 1869). Manly listed his occupation as a journalist. His brother Henry listed his occupation as commercial printer along with the Meyers and Goins. Manly had another younger brother, Thomas, who was approximately 11 at the time of the violence and who apparently lived in Wilmington also. Thomas later married Mabel Sadgwar, daughter of Frederick Sadgwar and sister to Caroline, Alex Manly's fiancé in 1898. Mabel said that Thomas passed as white most of his life. Mabel and Thomas moved to Pennsylvania after their marriage and he worked as an electrical engineer. Mabel and Caroline were the daughters of prominent community leader and Wilmington native Frederick Sadgwar, Sr. (See Sadgwar's entry for more information on that family)

Manly was involved in Wilmington civic life as an active member of Chestnut Street Presbyterian Church and was engaged to Caroline Sadgwar at the time of the violence. Caroline was educated at Gregory Normal School and attended Fisk University in Tennessee. A talented singer, Caroline toured the world with the Fisk Jubilee Singers. Caroline was performing in England at the time of the violence and, as soon as she returned to the United States, she married Alex Manly while he lived in Washington, D.C. soon after the violence in the home of Congressman George White. They later moved to Philadelphia where they had one son, Milo and Alex worked as a painter.

While in Wilmington, Manly lived at 514 McRae Street with his brother Frank. Manly and Caroline were able to return to the city for visits with her family many years after the violence although he may have traveled under disguise. He definitely returned to the city in 1925 for Frederick Sadgwar's funeral.

Manly and his son Milo maintained that property he owned in Wilmington was seized for non-payment of taxes. No confirmation of this activity has been found.

Manly became active in many activities after leaving Wilmington. He was a leader in the Afro-American Newspaper Council and most likely knew Timothy T. Fortune, prominent African American editor in New York. Manly also knew Booker T. Washington and W. E. B. DuBois. He helped to establish the Armstrong Association, a forebear of the Urban League.

Manly was described by his sister-in-law, Mabel Sadgwar Manly in an oral interview recorded by Beverly Smalls in 1985. In her interview she indicated that David Bryant Fulton worked for Manly at the *Record* for a short time and that he was the son of Levinia Robinson Fulton, one of the founders of the Congregational Church in Wilmington.

Manly has also been profiled in this report in Chapter 4. Transcripts of the interview are on file at the Cape Fear Museum. Additional information on Manly has been compiled by historian Robert Wooley for a forthcoming book about the controversial printer.

Manly knew the importance of the black vote to Wilmington. In 1895, soon after he and brother Frank assumed ownership and management of the *Record*, he wrote: "The air is full of politics, the woods are full of politicians. Some clever traps are being made upon the political board. In North Carolina the Negro holds the balance of power which he can use to the advantage of the race, state, and nation if he has the manhood to stand on principles and contend for the rights of a man."

Sources: Susan Block, *Temple of Our Fathers: St. James Church (1729-2004)*; Umfleet conversation with Robert Wooley, Summer 2004; *Wilmington Record*, September 28, 1895, original in the North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; *Wilmington Dispatch*, August 25, 1898; *Wilmington Messenger*, August 25, 1898; Prather, *We Have Taken a City*; Reaves, *Strength Through Struggle*; 1860-1930 census; 1897, 1900 city directories; Bill Reaves Collection, New Hanover County Public Library; McDuffie, "Politics in Wilmington;" Cody, "After the Storm;" 1890, 1897, 1900 New Hanover County Tax Lists.